WATER QUALITY REPORT

Your drinking water is *SAFE!*

The City of Hialeah water supply meets or exceeds all federal and state guidelines of safe water for the 2004 reporting period. The City's water supply complies with federal and state lead regulations as well.

The City owns and operates over 446 miles of water mains including service lines throughout our community. The continuous distribution of safe drinking water requires strict adherence to established protocols in the sampling, analysis and monitoring of the water supply through the entire system. In maintaining the quality of water, staff makes constant adjustments to our system, accommodating system demands and seasonal differences.

This water quality report provides information about where your water comes from, how it compares with regulatory requirements, and general sources of contamination. As one of Hialeah's 50,000 water customers, you enjoy quality water every time you turn on your tap.

WHERE DO WE GET OUR WATER?

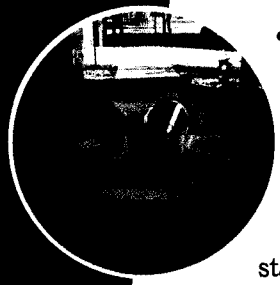
Do you know where your water comes from? The City of Hialeah purchases wholesale water from Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade obtains its water from the Biscayne Aquifer, an underground geological formation where water is stored. The Biscayne Aquifer is the sole source of fresh water for Miami-Dade County. It has been a reliable source since the early 1920's. Water from the Biscayne Aquifer is pumped to treatment facilities throughout Miami-Dade County, including the Hialeah Water Treatment Plant and the John E. Preston Water Treatment Plant. On average, more than 330 million gallons per day are provided to County residents. Hialeah residents use approximately 24 million gallons per day.

ABOUT LEAD

The City of Hialeah's water supply complies with federal and state lead regulations. Lead levels may fluctuate from home-to-home depending on the materials used in the construction of your plumbing system. Young children are more susceptible to the harms associated with lead. If you have young children at home, you may wish to have your water tested.

The following precautions may minimize your exposure to lead, should your service line be made of lead or piping that has lead soldered joints:

- If you have not used water from a particular outlet for over 6 hours run it for 30 to 60 seconds or until it feels cooler than when you originally began running it;
- Always use cold water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula;
- Use faucets and plumbing material that are either lead-free or will not reach unsafe levels of lead into your water.



HEALTH EFFECTS:

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the national drinking water standards could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning disabilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

JULY 2004

Mayor's Message

RAUL L. MARTINEZ
MAYOR

Our annual Water Quality report for 2004 presents information about the quality of the water we deliver to you every day. We continue to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water to all our residents and businesses alike. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and its 1996 amendments ensure that our health and safety are protected in the drinking water supply made available for public consumption. I am pleased to report once again that our drinking water meets or exceeds all safe water standards established by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Florida Department of Health and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Hialeah Department of Water and Sewers has implemented an extensive testing program to ensure the safety of our water supply. Water quality samples are collected by the Department throughout the City and tested regularly. Various regulatory agencies on the federal, state and local levels oversee these tests. I encourage you to take the time and review this report to learn more about our water and its quality.

SAVING WATER AT HOME

Water is essential to life, but it is often taken for granted. If we all save a few gallons of water a day at home, millions of gallons can be saved citywide. By saving water today, you can help preserve our water resources for tomorrow. Here are some helpful tips of how you can make a difference.

USE THESE TIPS TO HELP CONSERVE WATER.

1. Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth or shaving. Save 4-10 gallons a day per person.
2. Reduce the time you take in the shower to five minutes or less. Save 3-7 gallons per minute.
3. Close the tub drain before turning on the water. Save 3 gallons or more.
4. Fill your bathtub only halfway. A full tub holds more than 50 gallons. Save up to 25 gallons.
5. Never use your toilet as a waste basket. Save 3-7 gallons per flush.
6. Fill your sink or basin when washing and rinsing dishes. Save 8-15 gallons per day.
7. Run your dishwasher only when full. Select dish washing cycles that use the least number of washes and rinses. Avoid unnecessary rinsing of dishes before loading them into the dishwasher. Saves up to 15 gallons per load.
8. Wash vegetables and fruits in a basin. Save 2-4 gallons per day.
9. Use your garbage disposal only when necessary, since it requires water to operate. Save 2-7 gallons per minute.
10. Run your washing machine only when full, or for smaller loads, adjust the water level setting carefully. Washing machines use 25-50 gallons per load. Save 25-100 gallons per week.
11. Water your lawn and garden before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m. to avoid excess evaporation from the sun.
12. Adjust sprinklers to cover more lawn area.
13. Plant more shrubs and less grass. Shrubs and ground cover require less maintenance and less water and provide year-round greenery.
14. Water plants using a slow trickle around the roots.
15. Apply mulch around plants to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.
16. Install a shut off nozzle on your hose.
17. When washing your car, wet it quickly, turn off the spray, then wash it with soapy water from a bucket. Rinse quickly.

KEY TO DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TABLES

These tables are based on tests conducted in the year 2003 or the most recent testing done within the last five (5) calendar years. We conduct many tests throughout the year; however, only results of the required tests are shown here. The table below shows the meaning of abbreviations and symbols used in the tables.

Abbreviation/Symbol	Definition
MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below that there is no known expected risk to health.
MCL Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MRDLG Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
ppm/ Parts per million	Parts per million The ppm is equivalent to milligram per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
TT Treatment Technique	Treatment Technique A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL Action level	Action level. The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, PEOPLE WITH HIV/AIDS OR OTHER IMMUNE DEFICIENCIES:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be at risk from infections. These individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

CITY OF HIALEAH 2003 WATER QUALITY REPORT

PARAMETER	FEDERAL MCL (b)	FEDERAL GOAL (a)	STATE MCL	YEAR TESTED	Miami-Dade County Water Treatment Plant JOHN E. PRESTON	MAJOR SOURCES
Total Coliform Bacteria (c)	5%	0	5%	2003	0.52%	Naturally present in the enviroment
Total Trihalomethanes (ppd)(d)	100	n/a	100	2003	39 (22-59)	By-product of drinking water chlorination
cis-1, 2-Dichlorethylene (ppd)	70	70	70	2003	ND	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Arsenic (ppb)	50	NE	50	2002 (h)	1	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	2	2002 (h)	0.008	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	100	2002 (h)	0.1	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Copper (ppm) (e)	AL=1.3	1.3	AL=1.3	2002 (f)	0 Homes out of 111 (0%) exceeded AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	4	2002 (g)	0.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Lead (ppb) (e)	AL=15	0	AL=15	2002 (f)	3 Homes out of 111 (2.7%) exceeded AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Nickel (ppb)	NE	NE	100	2002 (h)	ND	Corrosion of bronze
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	10	10	10	2003	ND	Erosion of Natural Deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use
Nitrite (as N) (ppm)	1	1	1	2003	ND	Erosion of Natural Deposits Runoff from fertilizer use
Selenium (ppm)	50	50	50	2002 (h)	ND	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Sodium (ppm)	NE	NE	160	2002 (h)	35	Erosion of Natural Deposits and sea water
Thallium (ppb)	2	0.5	2	2002 (h)	ND	Discharge from electronics; glass and drug factories
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L	15	0	15	2002 (h)	1,1	Erosion of Natural Deposits

(a) MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
(b) MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
(c) The MCL for total coliform bacteria states that drinking water must not show the presence of coliform bacteria in >5% of monthly samples. A minimum of 390 samples for a total coliform bacteria testing are collected each month from the Main distribution system in order to demonstrate compliance with State regulations.
(d) A total of 48 samples for Total Trihalomethane testing are collected per year from the Main Distribution System in order to demonstrate compliance with State regulations. Compliance is based on a running annual average. This is the value which precedes the parenthesis.
(e) 90th percentile value reported. If the 90th percentile value does not exceed the AL (i.e., less than 10% of the homes have levels above the AL), the system is in compliance and is utilizing the prescribed corrosion control measures.
(f) The data presented for the Main System is from the most recent testing conducted in accordance with regulations. Our system is under reduced monitoring that only requires testing every 3 years.
(g) Fluoride testing to demontrate compliance with State regulations is required every 3 years in accordance with the State's monitoring framework. However, fluoride levels are monitored daily for the Main System treatment plants where fluoride is added to promote strong teeth.
(h) Data presented is from the most recent testing conducted in accordance with regulations. Testing for this parameter is required every 3 years in accordance with the State's monitoring framework.

ABBREVIATIONS AND NOTES

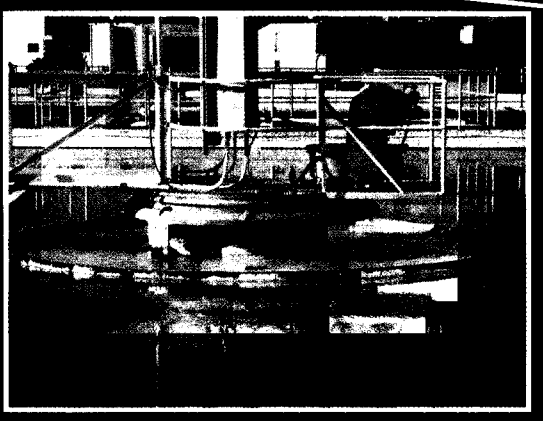
AL = Action Level
n/a = Not Applicable
ND = None Detected
NE = None Established
pCi/L = picoCuries per Liter
ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)
ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
( ) = Ranges (low-high) are given in parenthesis where applicable

*** THE CITY OF HIALEAH OBTAINS ALL OF ITS WATER FROM MIAMI-DADE COUNTY. THIS INFORMATION IS PROVIDED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.**

RADON DATA SUMMARY

PARAMETER	FEDERAL GOAL (a)	FEDERAL MCL	STATE MCL	YEAR TESTED	Miami-Dade County Water Treatment Plant JOHN E. PRESTON	MAJOR SOURCES
RADON (pCi/L)	NE	NE	NE	2003	4	Naturally occuring in soil and rock formations

WATER AND SEWER WORKING FOR YOU!



HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS REPORT ?

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CITY WEB SITE
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